Pesticides level in blood

†1366. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards the report released by the Centre for Science and Environment to the effect that the farmers in Punjab are having more pesticides in their blood in comparison to the farmers in America;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government have ascertained the facts in this regard by conducting any scientifically effective investigation after the release of said report; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) New Delhi has published the levels on residues of various pesticides in human blood in rural Punjab. According to their report 20 Blood samples collected randomly from 4 villages of Punjab are reported to contain organo-chlorine pesticides, organo-phosphate pesticides etc. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has stated that the CSE report itself states that the observed trend for DDT and HCH are comparatively lower than the earlier reports from India and nowhere in the report it is mentioned that the Punjab farmers are at higher risk.

According to information received from the Government of Punjab, they have instituted a study by the Chemical Examiner, Patiala who has tested 235 samples of Human Blood drawn at random from rural areas of Punjab for presence of pesticides like Organo Phosphorus Compounds, Chloro Compound, Aluminium Phosphide, Zinc Phosphide and Carbonate

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Group. But it was found that none of the samples contained the above mentioned pesticides.

The Govt, of Punjab has also informed that the position is being monitored by the State Govt, continuously by testing more samples of human blood.

Sex selective births

1367. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an alarmingly high incidence of sex-selective births in complete violation of the PNDT Act in Delhi;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to arrest the rampant foeticide in Delhi resulting in sex ratio of 219 girls for every 1000 boy's born?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Government is aware of the dwindling female to male sex ratio in Delhi. The data based on Census for Delhi is as follows:-

Census (for State of Delhi)	Female to Male sex Ratio per 1000	Child sex Ratio (0-6 years of age) per 1000
1991	827	915
2001	821	868

(b) and (c) The remedial actions taken by the Government consists of strict implementation of Pre-Conception & Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 & Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971, regular surveys and inspections of the clinics, holding of regular meetings of Advisory Committees, looking into the complaints under PNDT Act and female foeticide at State & District Level.